

EPISODE #86
April 22, 1993

The Valley COMIC

N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S

ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:

TERROR FIRMA
VIOLENCE SONATA
SPENDING A MESSAGE TO THE COUNTRY
THE WAGES OF SIN
BEYOND POLITIX
MISC. & MATCH



INSIDE

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CALVIN & HOBBS,
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JOE BOB BRIGGS, LEOLD,
IZZY GESELL'S HUMOR ME,
THIS MODERN WORLD,
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,
LOCAL HEROES,
WILMINGTON,
EARTHWEEK



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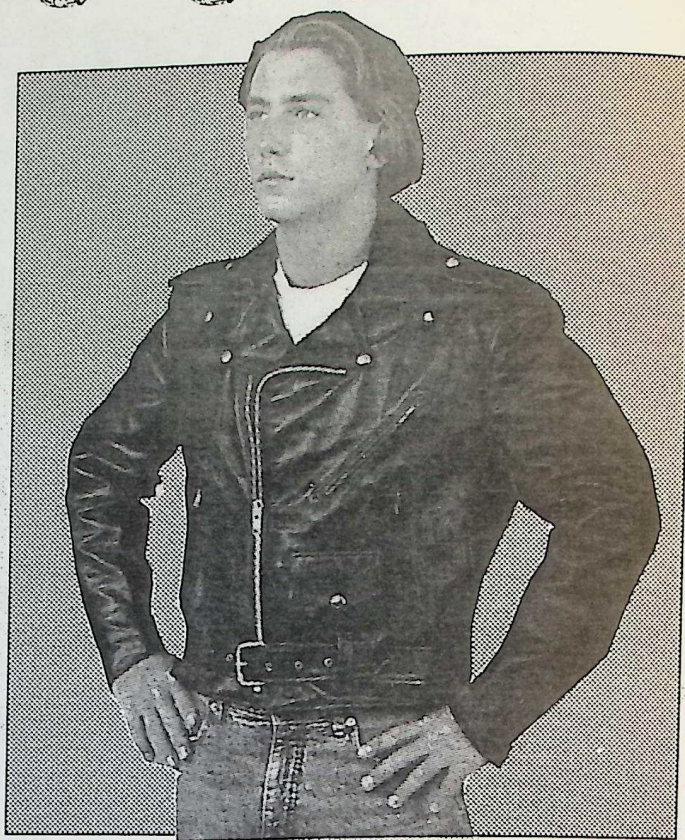
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PAGE THREE

by Mike Chrisman

DWM: Tall, athletic country walks, city into New Age sensent. Seeks S/DV the arts, gourmet cats, N/S, active in

I was reading the personal ads the other day. Actually, I was *caught* reading the personal ads by somebody who noted that from *his* angle I seemed to be poring over the "Couples, Three-Ways, and Crowds" section of the personals. He was right, of course; those are way more interesting than anything else in there. That's where I've discovered more uses than I ever thought for household items like spaghetti and feather boas and plastic tubing. Everywhere else it's so dreary and similar: "SWF — cute, bouncy, loves walks on the beach, kittens, long talks, good times, music. Seeking

soulmate — I know you're out there."

And they probably sit around expecting their soulmate to read their ad and go, "Yo, I like to walk on the beach, too! True love!!"

I have only one question for everybody who writes personal ads: How come *every single one of you* loves walking on the beach? The only thing you love even *remotely* as much is sitting in front of fireplaces. If everybody who said they loved walking on the beach actually *walked* on the beach, there wouldn't be any room for the rest of us to sit down, much less swim. All you'd see would be single beach-walkers as far as the horizon.

Furthermore, how many times during a year can you *walk* on the beach? Six? Twenty? Say you go every weekend all summer and walk twice a day — that's 12x2x2 = 48 beachwalks, not counting three-day weekends. *What do you do with the rest of your life?*

And that's not the only thing I can't figure out about the personals. One local paper runs a personals section where people keep saying they're DTE. Of course they don't tell you what this means *anywhere* in the paper. They tell you what S and D and M and F mean. They mention W and B and L and Bi and NS (no smoking). They even clue you in to SOH (sense of humor). But I had to actually *call* the newspaper to find out what DTE is all about. And then the person who answered said she'd just come back after a two-month leave, and *she* didn't know what it meant. She put me on hold to go ask. Get this: it means "Down To Earth." *Down To Earth???* As opposed to *what?* Are lots of personal advertisers saying they're SS (Space Shots)? MIO (Mostly In Orbit)? OC (Ozone Cookies)? These DTE people might as well put: "I'm too nice to exist, I'm hopelessly cliché-ridden, my life is dripping with smarmy drivél, I've never had an original thought in my life. Seeking same."

The worst part is, there'd probably be a *slew* of answers to that ad, all reading more or less like: "Clichés are my life," and "Smarmy Drivel is my middle name."

All I know is — if I ever advertised through the personals, it'd be about stuff I *really* go for. It'd say: "I like falling asleep, having the wishbone break in *my* favor, making every green light between Northampton and Amherst, some cool personal stuff I'd *never* disclose in an ad like this, and early Italian Renaissance art. B/Y/O feather boa and plastic tubing." *That'd* start the letters rolling in.

The Valley Comic News

P.O. Box 515, Northampton, MA 01061

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17 • Siena Chrisman c 1993 The Valley Comic News

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specially priced at \$5.95-\$12.95

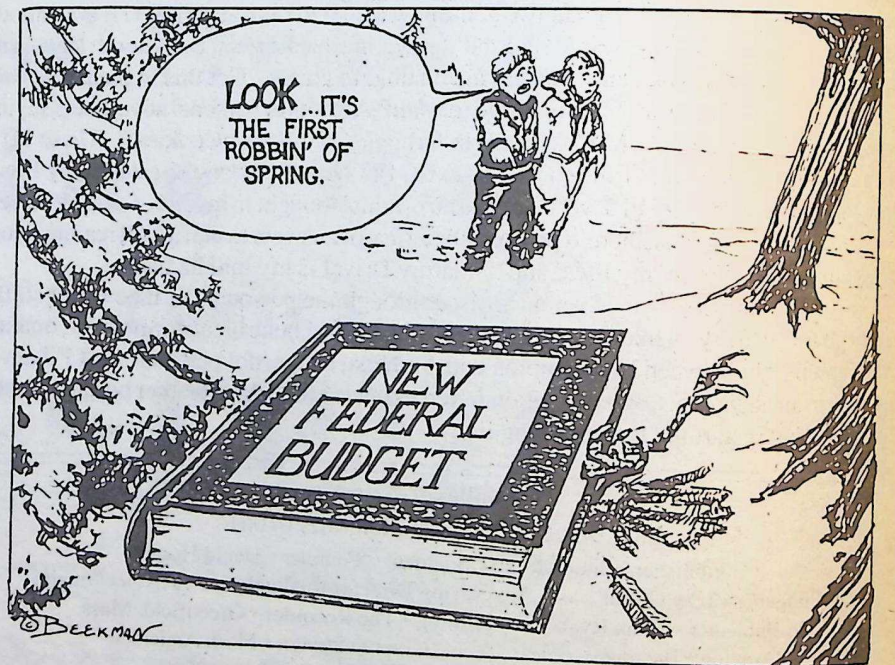
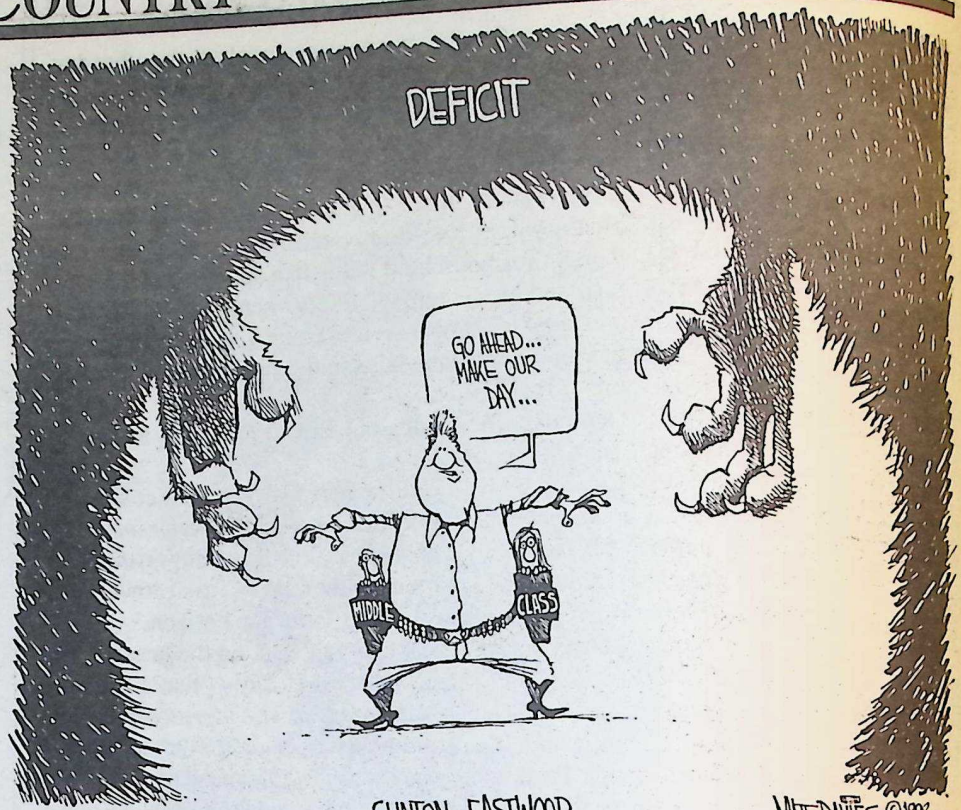


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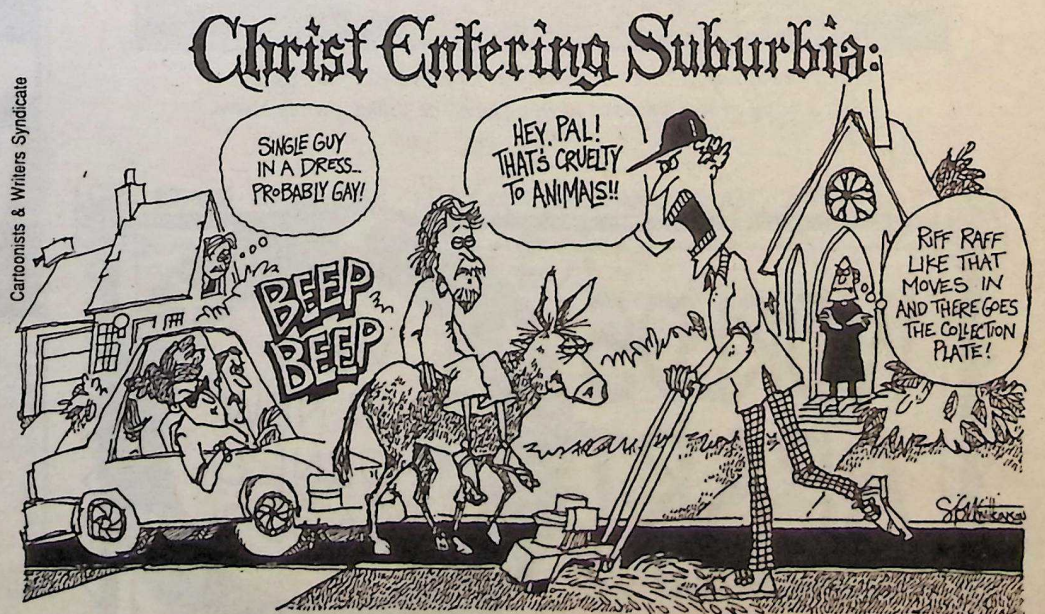
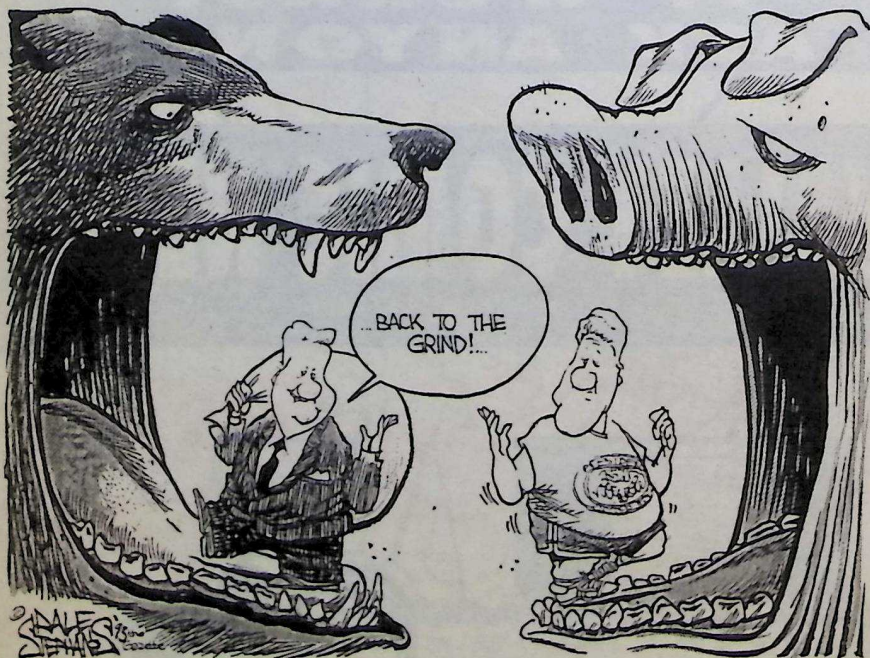
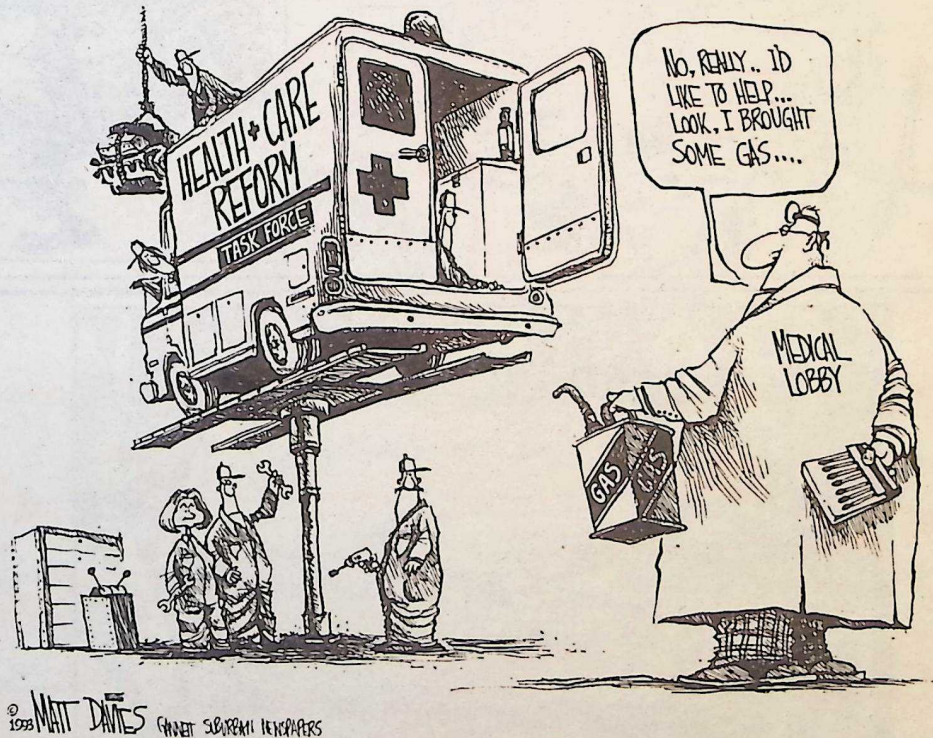
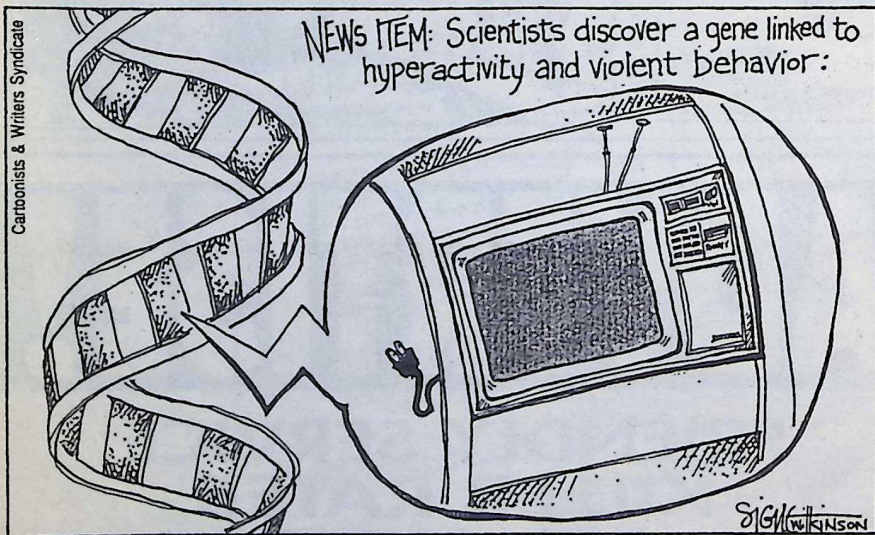
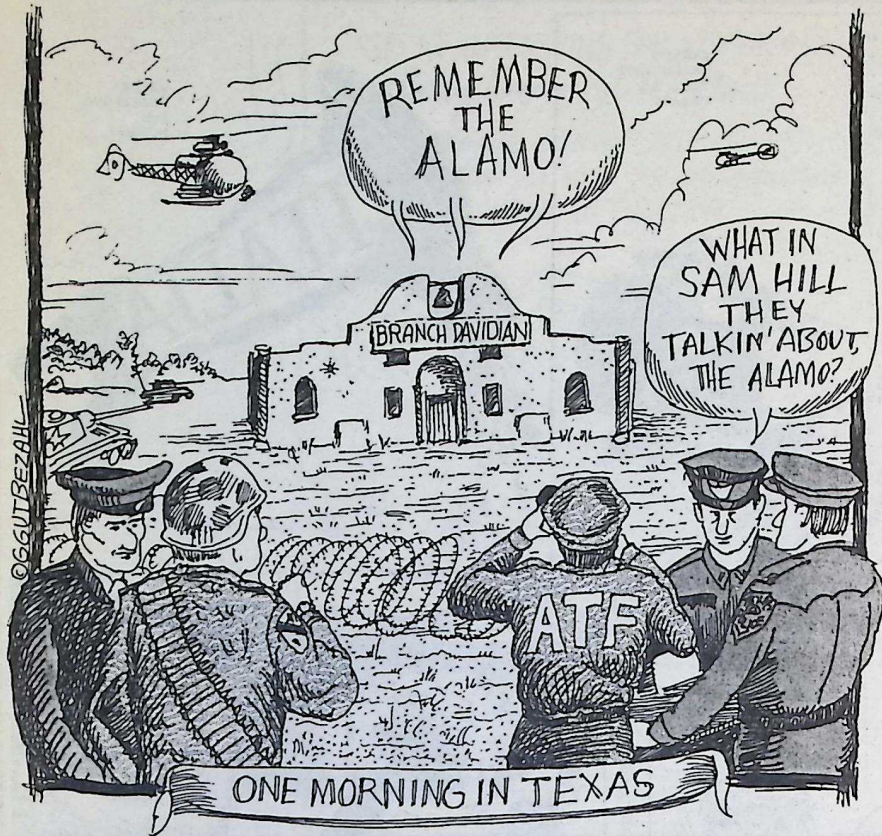
northampton
main st. • 7 days

BASIC
DUDS
at Faces

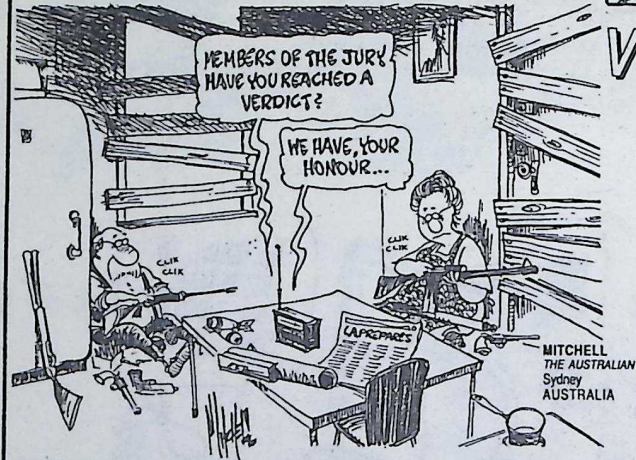
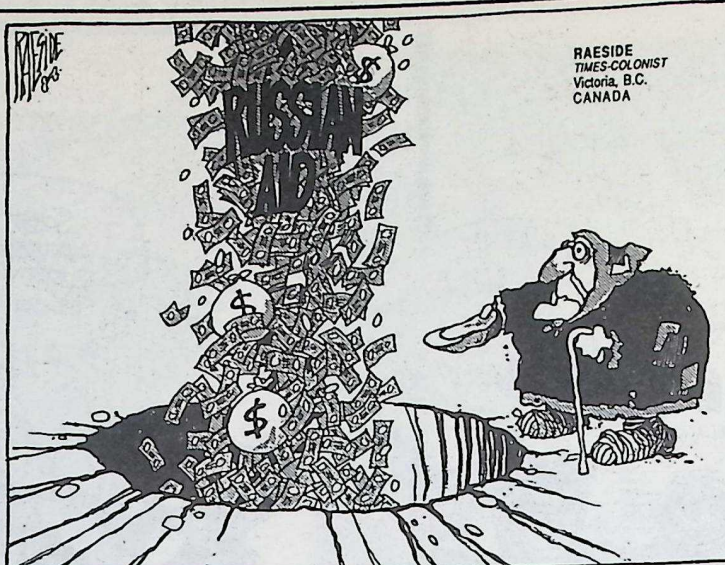
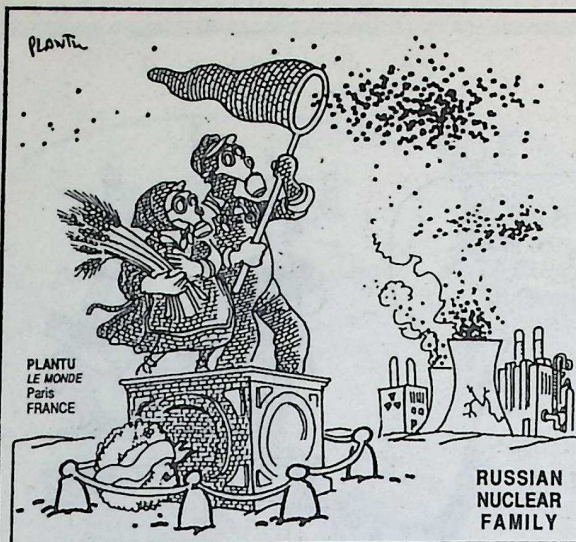
SPENDING A MESSAGE TO THE COUNTRY



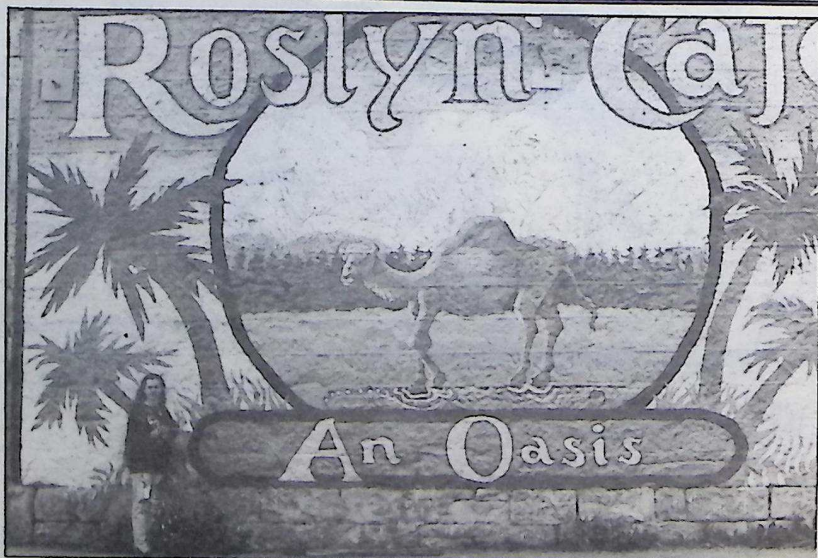
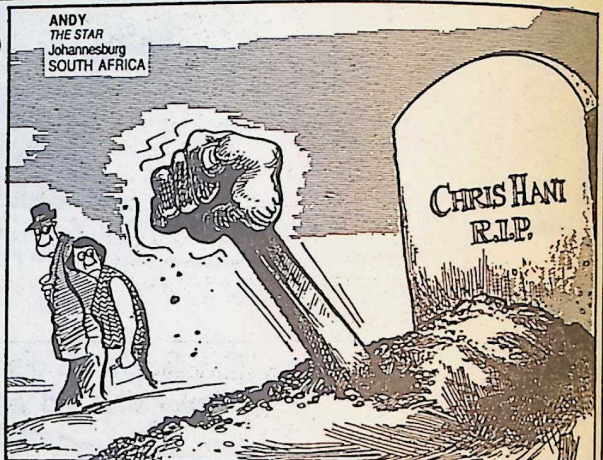
MISC. & MATCH



VIEWS OF THE WORLD



VIEWS of the WORLD



Slena Chrisman relaxes outside her favorite Alaskan café with a copy of her favorite newspaper: The Valley Comic News

ADVERTISE!

FRIENDLY SERVICE
KILLER RATES
NO MESS

IT WORKS.
ASK ANYONE.

VALLEY COMIC NEWS

Contact: 413/586/2274

DESIGN: GLOBAL VILLAGE MEDIA

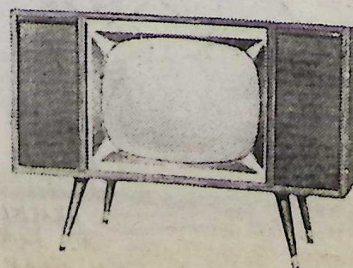
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BERMAN by Jennifer Berman

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Lady Couch Potato WAND
TV REMOTE CONTROL SWITCH THAT
REQUIRES CONTACT WITH XX CHROMOSOMES
IN ORDER TO FUNCTION

NO MORE
GUYS MADLY
FLIPPING THRU
CHANNELS!

NOW YOU
CAN RECALL
DAVE'S FUNNY
JOKES IN THE
MORNING!

SECRET
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DETECTION
SENSOR!
YOUR SET AUTO-
MATICALLY SHUTS
DOWN IF THE
DUDE TOUCHES
THAT DIAL!

HONEY?
THE SUPERBOWL
IS JUST NOT COMING
IN ON YOUR TV!

TRY YOUR HAND ON THE
Electronic Palate! ALTER
TED KOPPEL'S HAIRDO WITH A
TOUCH OF A BUTTON!
① THE LARRY KING CUT!
② THE MICHAEL JORDAN!
③ THE "DEAR ABBY"

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same person offered at
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and we will refund the
difference in price.

Note: all dates given in as is
condition. Personalities
subject to change without
notice.

SWM, 36, 5'8", seeking SF to satisfy

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BECOMING ONE WITH THE DOW

I THINK
THEREFORE
IBM

OFF THE DEEP END © 1989 Andrew Lehman—concept by Bill Montgomery

LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman

IN AN UGLY GRAB FOR POWER SNAP, CRACKLE,
AND POP ATTEMPT TO OUST THE TOOTH FAIRY,
JACK FROST, AND THE SANDMAN FROM
THEIR TRADITIONAL POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE.

Andrew Lehman © 1992
Dist. by Carmen Syndication

BERMAN by Jennifer Berman

PBS FOR CATS

WELCOME TO THEIR OLD HOUSE!
TONIGHT WE CONTINUE TO SEARCH AND
DESTROY PRICELESS HEIRLOOMS. JOE'S
SPRAYING THE ORIENTAL RUG. LET'S SEE
HOW HE'S DOING....

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THIS MODERN WORLD BY TOM TOMORROW

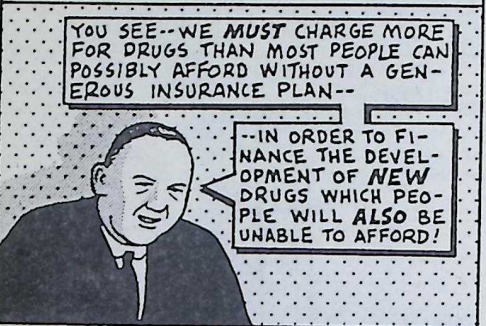
THIS MODERN WORLD

TOM TOMORROW © 4-6-93

CONSIDERING THAT IN 1980, THE TOP TAX RATE WAS 70%, CLINTON'S TAX HIKES ARE RELATIVELY MODEST... STILL, SOME PANIC-STRICKEN CONSERVATIVES SEEM TO BELIEVE A SOCIALIST TAKE-OVER OF THE UNITED STATES HAS BEGUN...



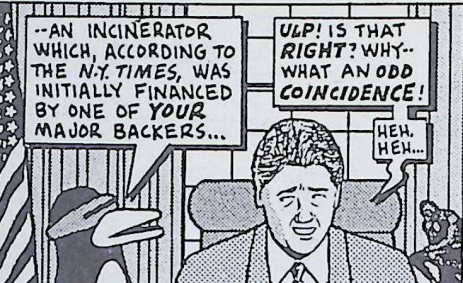
PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS CLAIM CLINTON'S CRAZY, LEFT-WING NOTION OF REGULATING DRUG PRICES WOULD HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES...



THE MEDICAL INDUSTRY CONSIDERS CLINTON A WILD-EYED RADICAL FOR PROPOSING THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD SOMEHOW INTERVENE TO GUARANTEE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR EVERYONE...



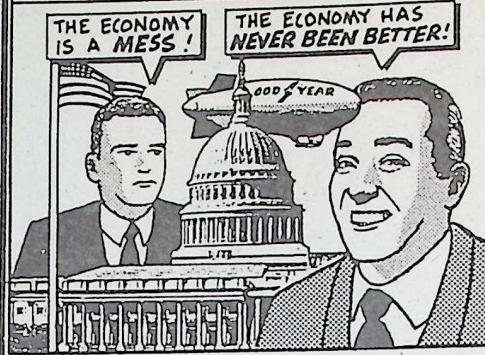
OF COURSE, CLINTON'S CONSERVATIVE CRITICS WERE SILENT ON ONE RECENT OCCASION-- WHEN HE APPROVED THE STARTUP OF A CONTROVERSIAL TOXIC WASTE INCINERATOR IN OHIO... DESPITE PROMISES TO THE CONTRARY BY AL GORE...



THIS MODERN WORLD

TOM TOMORROW © 4-13-93

IN POLITICS, REALITY SEEMS TO BE LARGELY A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE.



ECONOMISTS ARE MASTERS OF THIS, PASSING OFF THEIR OPINIONATED GUESSWORK AS A SCIENCE... IGNORING THE FACT THAT TO TRULY COMPREHEND THE VAST WEB OF INTERDEPENDENCY WHICH CONSTITUTES OUR ECONOMY, YOU'D HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT IN THE PROBLEMS OF, AND INTERACTIONS BETWEEN:

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--JUST TO NAME A FEW--

AS ISSUES ARE DEBATED, ALL SIDES STRUGGLE TO APPEAR OBJECTIVE--ESCHEWING EMOTIONAL ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE SEEMING RATIONALITY OF NUMBERS AND STATISTICS.



ALMOST EVERY TOPIC OF PUBLIC DEBATE IS EQUALLY COMPLEX... NO SINGLE INDIVIDUAL CAN POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND IT ALL... AND YET, THERE'S CERTAINLY NO SHORTAGE OF SELF-STYLED EXPERTS CLAIMING TO HAVE SIMPLE, DEFINITIVE ANSWERS...





Photo: Jennifer Burdick

25 CENTRAL

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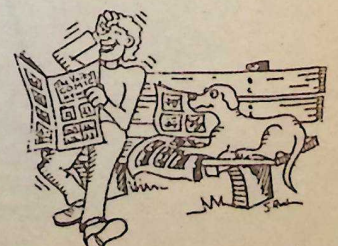
Unique entertainment for all events.

VOTED "BEST CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER"



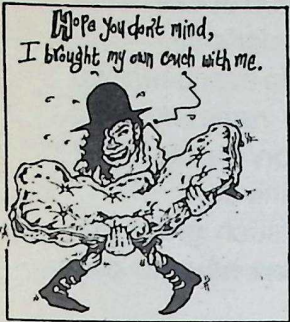
Teens, adults, and grandparents love the Games Man, too! So, for professional performances that are playful, participatory, interactive, non-competitive, and guaranteed FUN or your money back, call today!

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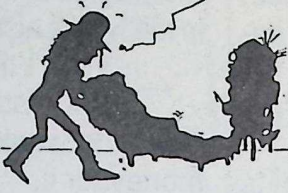


LOCAL HEROES

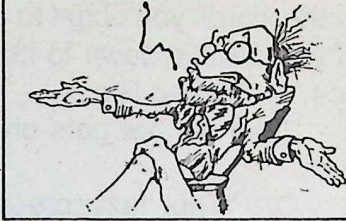
Star Shrinker © P. Rowdy



...one can't be too careful with other people's germs.



By ALL means, Michael, I want you to feel safe in here.

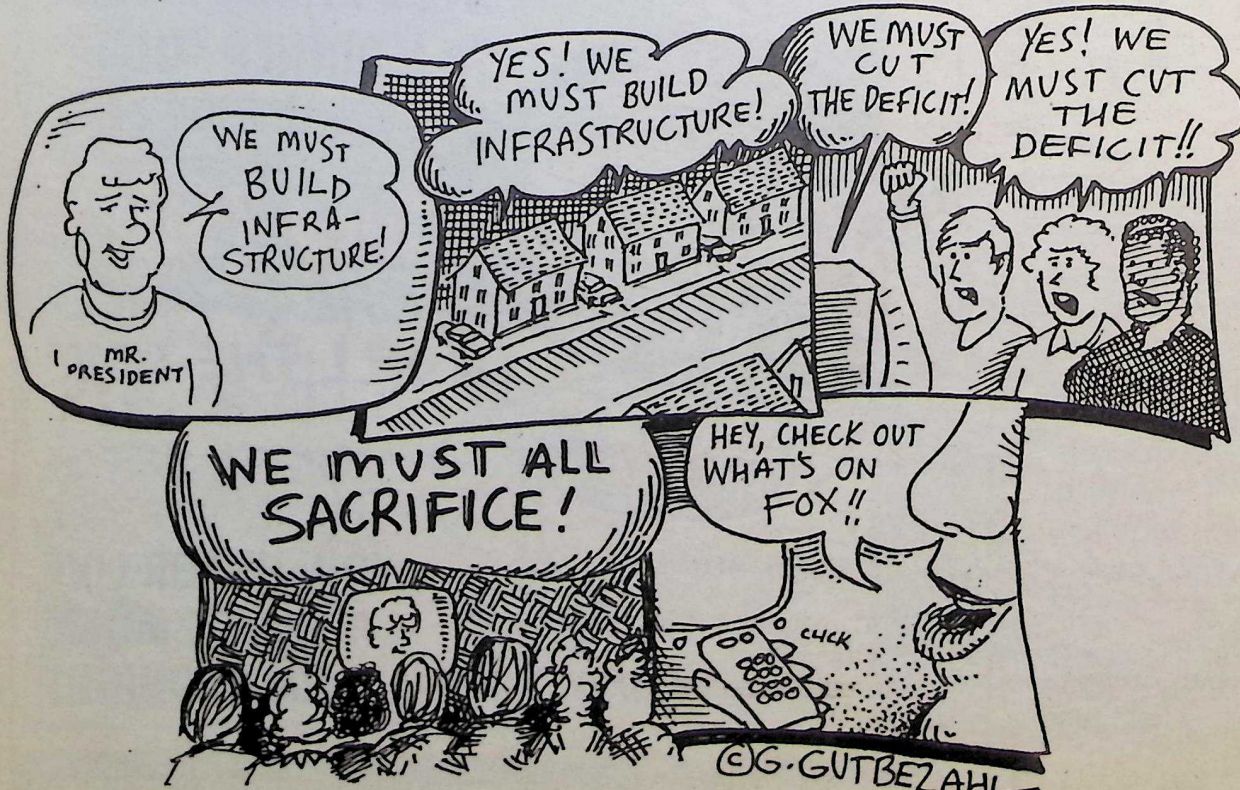
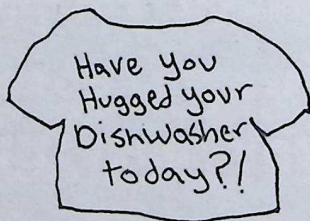


by Dr. Rowdy illustrations: K. Seidel

In that case, would you mind wearing this?



Bargain T-Shirts



SUNGLASSES • SUNDRESSES • HATS

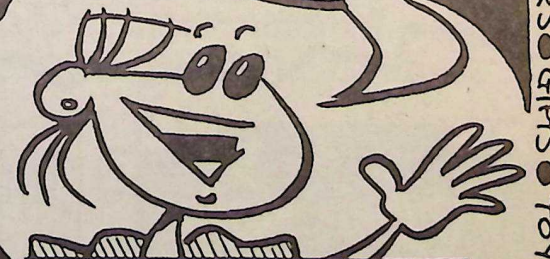
BOXERS • BLOUSES • BEAD CURTAINS • BALLS • BRASS • CHINESE EXERCISE • BAGS • BANDANAS • BELLS • BASKETS • BOXES

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CARDS • JOURNALS • GIFT WRAP

JOE BOB BRIGGS

Has anybody ever gone to a marriage counselor and actually *fixed* their marriage?

I mean, what's the batting average here? After about 80 years of having this profession, aren't we hitting about .001? Don't you have a better chance of spending one quarter and hitting a progressive million-dollar slot-machine payoff at the Dunes Hotel?

Whoever dreamed up this idea in the first place?

First you yell at each other for a year. Then you go pay *money* to a complete stranger to tell you what you're yelling about.

And how do they know what you're yelling about?

They *assume* you're yelling about the same things their *other* patients are yelling about.

They say things like, "It's very common in a marriage for a wife to feel...."

And you wanna say, "Hey,

Bozo! I don't care what's *common*. I wanna know how leaving my socks on the floor ends up as World War III."

And so they say, "Obviously the socks issue is bringing up something much deeper in your relationship. It symbolizes a frustration that" Blah blah blah blah blah, and after awhile you don't know *what* they're talking about.

And then they always use the word "communication" over and over and over again.

"This is not about intimacy," they'll say. "This is about *communication*."

And, excuse me for being the dimwit I am, but I never understand what *anybody* means — psychologists, feminists, ethnic groups, professors — when they start talking about "communication." What they *seem* to be saying is, "There's no problem here. You're just *expressing* yourself

wrong." And so you spend the next 17 hours figuring out exactly how to *express* things, and going over the words you ought to use, until you distill it down to its essence, something like:

"This old bat gets on my nerves."

Or: "This lazy creep is never around when I need him."

And then the therapist goes, "Good! This is very good progress. Now we can *deal with those feelings*."

And then the old bat and the lazy creep go home and start arguing about the same stuff they were arguing about before, except now they have a *whole new set of words* to use.

"You're listening to the non-verbal part of what I'm saying!"

"You have no feelings! You only argue on the intellectual plane!"

And pretty soon it's time to

go put another 200 bucks in the marriage counselor's till.

Have there ever been two marriages even *remotely* alike in the whole history of marriage?

I don't think so.

If it was such great advice, you wouldn't have to pay money for it.

To discuss the meaning of life with Joe Bob, or to get his world-famous newsletter, write Joe Bob Briggs, PO Box 2002, Dallas TX 75221. **COPYRIGHT 1993 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.**



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KAPLAN
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DINNER 'TIL 11

OPEN SUNDAY DAYS



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Free Delivery (*7³⁰ Minimum)

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Open every day at 9:30

Enjoy our grand, newly-renovated store!



Same great ice cream!

Thornes Market,
Old South Street
Northampton
586-9700

BERMAN by Jennifer Berman

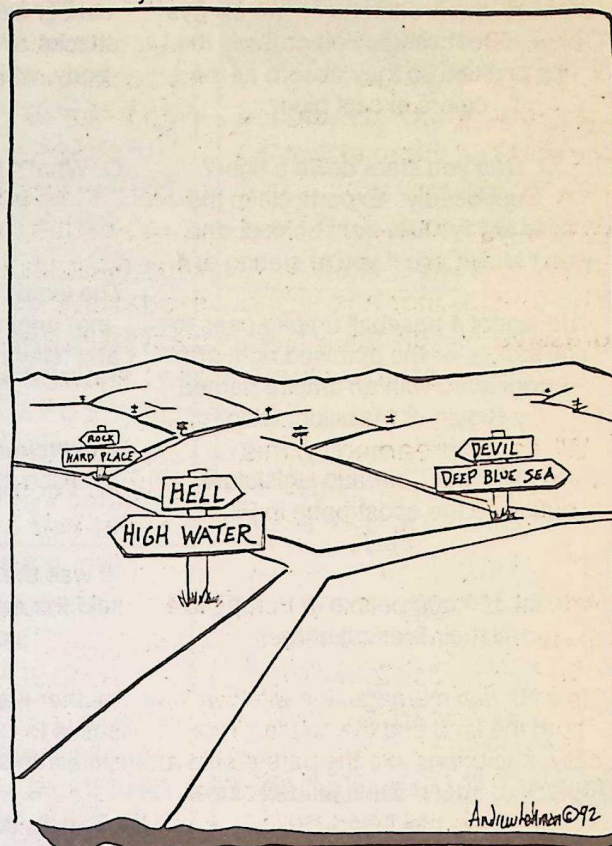
GLORIA'S ABSENCE OF PERSONAL BOUNDARIES
OFTEN GOT HER INTO TROUBLE.

HI! MY NAME'S GLORIA.
ALLOW ME TO TELL YOU ALL
THE HEARTWRENCHING DETAILS
ABOUT MY TRAGIC
CHILDHOOD....



DIST BY CARMEN SYNDICATION #73

LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



There may be other valleys...
There may be other comics...
There may be other news...
But there's only one
Valley Comic News!!!

The Valley
COMIC
N.E.W.S

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After Soaking
in a Hot Tub at



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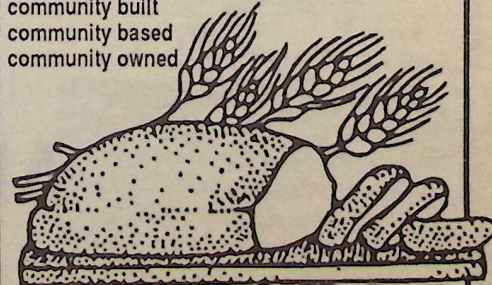
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VILLAGE
CO-OP

180 Rattlesnake Gutter Road
(3 miles toward Lake Wyola
from the junction of Rts. 47 & 63)

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supermarket shopping is in
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open 7AM M-F
late closing W-F
open 9AM Sat & Sun

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TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

When icebergs calve off heavy glaciers, the broken faces are always blue. Great weight compresses the ice crystals so they absorb all the colors except blue.

Q. Can you stare down a tiger?
A. Supposedly. Experts claim the tiger always kills from behind, and won't attack you if you're staring at it.

The signal a baseball umpire uses to call strikes — the upraised right arm — originated with an umpire named Cy Rigler, of Massillon, Ohio.

In 1978 the Colorado legislature outlawed the apostrophe in Pike's Peak.

At least 100,000 people in Europe live all their lives on barges.

In a Navajo marriage, the wife owns both the land and the house. Typically, she brings into the partnership a flock of sheep she's tended since childhood.

Astronauts in orbit say they see the wakes of ships at sea.

Human hair cells divide rapidly. So do cancer cells. Cancer chemotherapy attacks all rapidly-dividing cells in the body, which is why chemo patients' hair falls out.

Q. What's the most popular main dish in the United States?
A. Fried chicken.

The word "conclave," meaning "meeting" originally was two words: "con" and "clave," meaning "with keys." Or "private meeting."

Researchers claim you burn half again as much gasoline when there's snow on the road.

It was the Baron de Rothschild who said the eighth wonder of the world is compound interest.

Another way to find a dropped contact lens is to vacuum the area — with the attachment covered by pantyhose.

Tahiti's tides vary less than a foot.

It's said of Thomas Edison that on average he produced a patentable device every two weeks of his life.

A contributor to this column, who identifies herself as a creative mother who is tired of clichés, says she tells her children: "When you leave a room, turn on the dark."

At one time in the fairly recent past, dentures were made with real teeth, extracted by "tooth-drawers" from soldiers fallen in battle. Well-to-do Englishmen bragged about their "Waterloo teeth." During the U.S. Civil War, barrels of teeth were shipped to Europe.

All Tasmanian snakes are poisonous.

The sand on Siesta Key off Sarasota, Fla., is said to be 99 percent quartz — the whitest and purest sand anywhere in the United States.

Two-thirds of the people over 100 years old are women.

If the earth were the size of a basketball, its surface would be smoother than a basketball's.

Q. How long does it take for mice to make love?
A. Five seconds.

Q. How many revolutions, if any, does a perfect knuckleball make on its way to home plate?

A. Half a revolution.

For a couple of weeks out of each month during the winters at the poles, you can see the moon circling the sky 24 hours a day.

The average age of golf caddies in Scotland is 50.

Both surgeons and patients agree that the second facelift almost invariably looks more natural than the first.

Computer data-gatherers report that roughly 35 percent of all computers are left on overnight and on week-ends.

West Point started the tradition of class rings.

Most mammals — and most birds — mate in daylight.

Producers of knee-pads say the best thing that ever happened to them was the skateboard.



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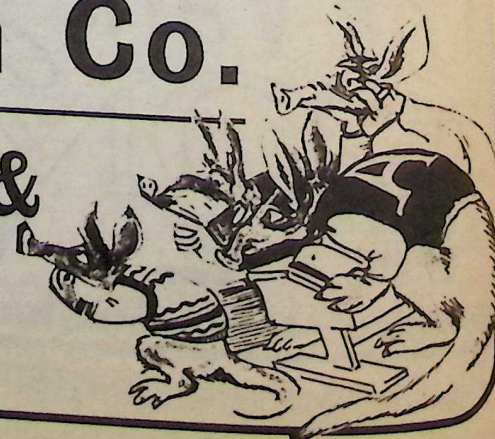
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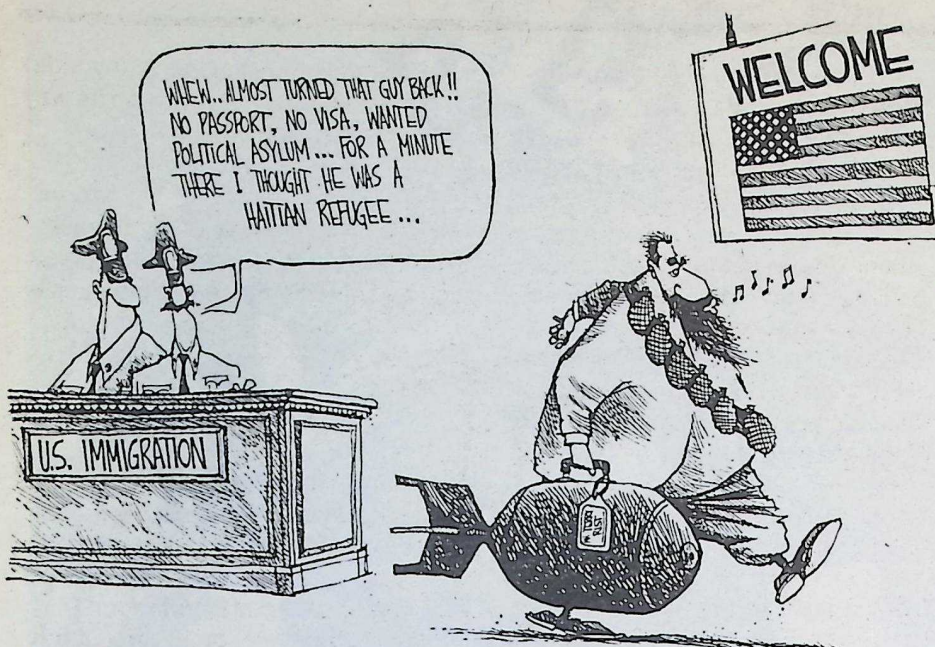
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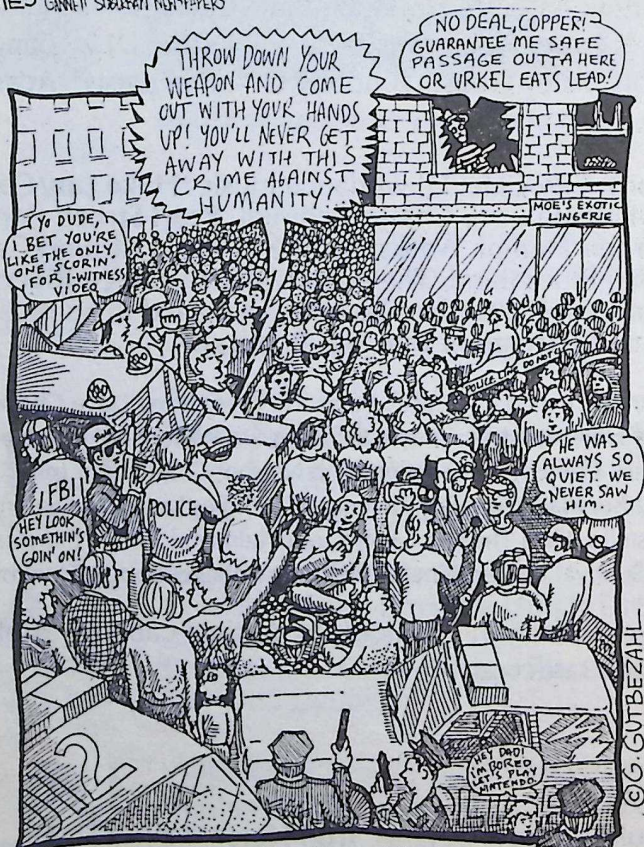
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Jen Deane
Sue Costello
Boston

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THE FRESH KILLS
HYDROX

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THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS

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VISITORS



THU
TWENTYTWO

Iron Horse: Ad Vielle Que Pourra **Vertex:** Selectrocution **Baystate Hotel:** Baystate Cabaret — Pajama Slave Dancers, Rock Gods From Chicopee, Pan Gloss **Dave's Other Place:** Art Steele **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Pearl Street:** Back In Black (AC/DC tribute), Mostly Holy **Alley Oops:** DJ Bobby C—all requests **Academy of Music:** Indochine, The Crying Game **Charlemont Inn:** open mic

FRI
TWENTYTHREE

Alley Oops: Paris **Dave's Other Place:** Charles Langford **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Huke Lau/Comedy Connection:** Polynesian Show **Hotel Northampton:** Mark Malucci, Charlie Schmidt **Pearl Street:** Pop Black, Michael Gregory **Iron Horse:** The Roches **Peking Garden/Humor Works:** Funniest Person Around Campus — Preliminary Laugh-Off **Baystate Hotel:** Mark Nomad Blues Band, The Nightcrawlers **Green River Cafe:** Pan Morrigan **Vertex:** Testament, Green Jello **Northampton Center for the Arts:** The Hand to Surface Tour '93 — Red Helmut Discipline, Hector, Sunk in the Funk **Charlemont Inn:** The Bombastics

SAT
TWENTYFOUR

Vertex: Selectrocution **Baystate Hotel:** Baystate Cabaret — Vestrymen (record release), Super Eight, featuring Dave Champagne and Ellen Cross, Pooka Stew **Green River Cafe:** Rent Party **Hotel Northampton:** Charlie Schmidt, Dave Brunelle **Iron Horse:** The Roches **Pearl Street:** The Sighs, The Fresh Kills, Hydrox **Huke Lau/Comedy Connection:** Bob Nelson **Charlemont Inn:** Riverfront Jump **Alley Oops:** Paris **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Dave's Other Place:** The Big-Time Jazz/Blues Festival w/ Joe Sallins **Peking Garden/Humor Works:** Brendan McMahon, Jen Deane, Sue Costello **Shea Theater:** (AM) Sarah Plain And Tall — Pioneer Valley Ballet, (PM) Julia Burrough, Michael Nix, chorus from Amandla (Survival Center Benefit) **Amherst College:** Bobcat Goldthwait

SUN
TWENTYFIVE

Iron Horse: David Wilcox, Deborah Levoy **Green River Cafe:** "Isn't It Nice?" — musical cabaret **Amherst College:** Maura O'Connell **Vertex:** Lachrymator, United Hardcore

MON
TWENTYSIX

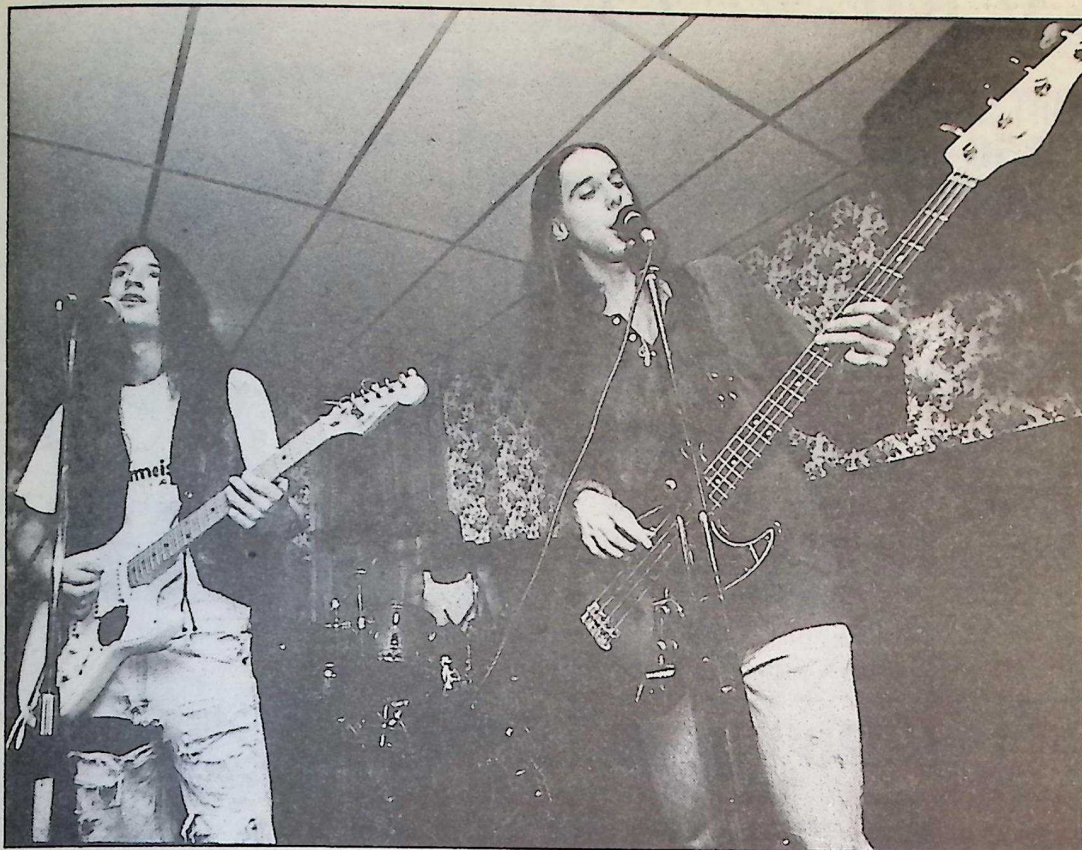
Baystate Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights **Iron Horse:** Poetry Slam **Northampton Center for the Arts:** Readers & Writers, Live! — Margaret Lloyd

TUE
TWENTYSEVEN

Iron Horse: God Street Wine **Pearl Street:** They Might Be Giants **Green River Cafe:** open mic. w/ Rob Skelton

WED
TWENTYEIGHT

Vertex: Reggae — New Horizon **Iron Horse:** New Radiant Storm King, The Veronica Cartwrights, Jessamin **Northampton Center for the Arts:** Readers & Writers, Live! — Wendy Kaminer



Southgoing Zax at the Bay State Hotel

Tobey photo



THU
TWENTYNINE

Vertex: Selectrocution **Iron Horse:** Robert Earl Keen, Michael Smith **Alley Oops:** All Request w/ DJ Bobby C. **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Dave's Other Place:** Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights **Pearl Street:** Bim Skala Bim **Charlemont Inn:** open mic **Baystate Hotel:** Songwriters Showcase — Gideon Freudmann, Johnny Memphis, and many more

FRI
THIRTY

Baystate Hotel: Baystate Cabaret — New Radiant Storm King, Media Darlings, Backwash **Dave's Other Place:** Bill Holloman Group **Green River Cafe:** John O'Connor **Alley Oops:** Time Trippers **Pearl Street:** Col. Bruce Hampton & The Aquarium Rescue Unit **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Vertex:** Slowpoke, Fallout **Iron Horse:** Adrian Legg **Shea Theater:** The Odd Couple **Hotel Northampton:** Jac Veronesi, Tom Savoy

SAT
ONE

Alley Oops: Perfect Stranger **City Cafe:** DJ w/ dance music **Iron Horse:** Christine Lavin **Green River Cafe:** Cordelia's Dad **Baystate Hotel:** The Vindicators, and (possibly) John Felice **Pearl Street:** The Big Bad Bollocks **Vertex:** Selectrocution **Peking Garden/HumorWorks:** Finalists in Funniest Person Around Campus Competition **Dave's Other Place:** Scott Sasanecki **Huke Lau/Comedy Connection:** Carrot Top **Shea Theater:** The Odd Couple

SUN
TWO

Alley Oops: New Country w/ DJ Mike P. **Iron Horse:** Tom Rush **Vertex:** Fat Tuesday, The Mighty Sturgeon **Amherst College:** Iain Matthews **Pearl Street:** Digable Planets, D-Influence

MON
THREE

Baystate Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & the Fabulous Heavyweights **Iron Horse:** Acoustic Junction

TUE
FOUR

Iron Horse: Boiled in Lead, Tarika Sammy **Northampton Center for the Arts:** Readers and Writers, Live! — Steve Erickson **Vertex:** Eden, Lost City

WED
FIVE

Vertex: The Fabulous Thunderbirds **Bay State Hotel:** Hector, Flying Buttress, Lumber

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AD VIELLE QUE POURRA

FRI 23 & SAT 24++

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THE ROCHES

SUN 25

DAVID WILCOX &
DEBORAH LEVOY

MON 26

POETRY SLAM

TUE 27

GOD STREET WINE

WED 28

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THE VERONICA CARTWRIGHTS,
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THU 29+

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MICHAEL SMITH

FRI 30

ARDIAN LEGG

SAT 1

CHRISTINE LAVIN

SUN 2

TOM RUSH

MON 3

ACOUSTIC JUNCTION

TUE 4

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THU 6 & FRI 7

THE BOBS

SAT 8

THE STORY

SUN 9

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WILM Channel 56 program guide

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28 WEDNESDAY

8:00 Barney's Wall Street

Lovable, huggable Barney discusses the latest in market trends and hostile take-overs. A financial program for children of all ages.

8:30 This Old Shoe

Host "Heels" Guguff visits a South Carolina shoe repairman as they re-sole some penny loafers. Heels talks to customers about their insteps. Special guest Mel Tormé delights regulars at the shoe shop with a medley of Tin Pan Alley classics.

9:00 The Gourmet Guy cc

New Jersey Immigrants—Jeff travels to Newark and uncovers the secret to successful grilled cheese & tater tots.

9:30 Cleaning Up With Hank cc

Hank tackles last week's baked-on-grease from Julia Child's *Sole à la Meunière* and the Pizza Chef's *Linguine Squidballs*. He sets Jeff's cookie sheets and cast-iron skillet in the pre-wash basin to soak overnight.

10:00 The Metropolitan Opera Presents

I Just Found Me A Quarter—This semi-autobiographical opera by renowned Icelandic composer Hkghktgktkg covers the life of a recently-retired guy who wears baggy shorts with black polyester socks, and spends his afternoons in public parks searching for pocket change with a metal detector. Bertoldh Butrow plays Hkghktgktkg, and Placebo Toledo (who delivers the opera's only aria) plays the metal detector.

12:30 Jolly Cheerio, I Do Say Old Chap!

This uproarious Brit-Com concerns two single women and their crazy hijinks when living with a single man who is klutzy as all get-out!

29 THURSDAY

8:00 TUVA CC S

Memorizing Really Big Numbers—TUVA finds that the number 154,992,576,809,143,675,113.4 not only has no practical application but is also quite hard to remember.

9:00 Mystery Frontline! CC

In an attempt to cut costs, we at WILM have fashioned a show out of thirty minutes each from two popular hour-long programs. Tonight's episode pits the cunning 19th-Century French Inspector Poirot against several beaurocrats in Langley, Virginia who deny masterminding an American operation responsible for airdropping lemon meringue on Buenos Aires during recent elections in Argentina.

10:00 Woodstock '93: Love & Mini-Vans

Four ex-roadies from Canned Heat as well as a Melanie impersonator gather at the famous Yasgur site in upstate New York to reminisce, play a little badminton and discuss aluminum recycling. (Melanion's latest CD can be ordered through the station for a pledge of \$75.)

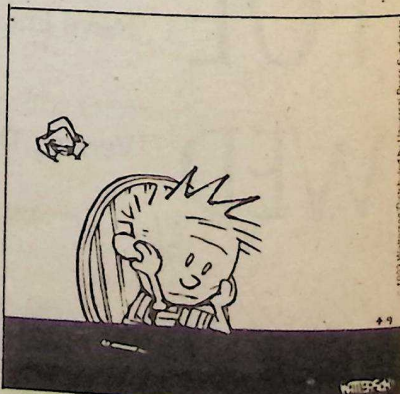
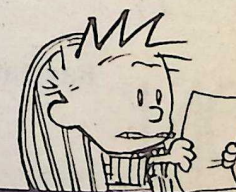
11:00 Charlie Rosary

High School guidance counselor and WNET talk show host Charlie Rosary interviews America's best and finest. Tonight he swaps one-liners with the Vice President and asks that question on the minds of so many food consumers today, "Whither Beatrice?"

page 27



HOW MANY BOARDS
WOULD THE MONGOLS HOARD,
IF THE MONGOL HORDES
GOT BORED?



VIOLENCE SONATA



Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate



The Valley
COMIC
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95.3 **WRSI**

PRESENT

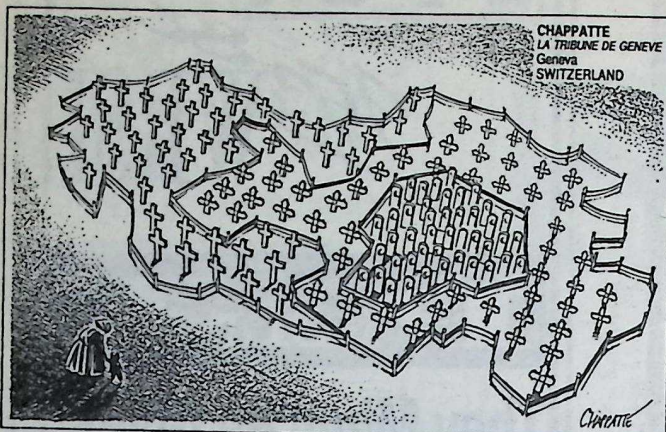
They Might Be Giants
with Brian Dewann



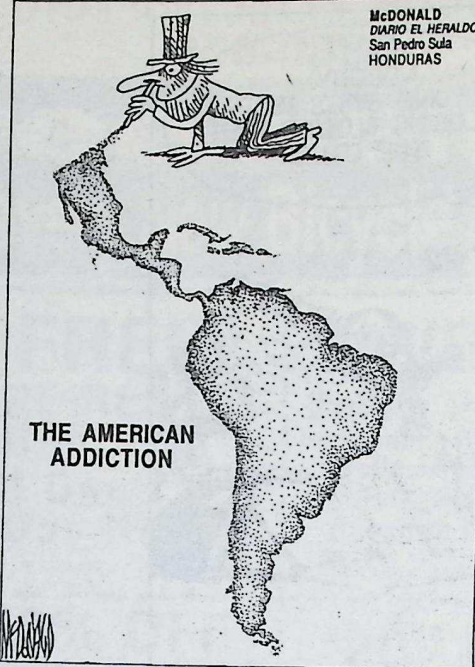
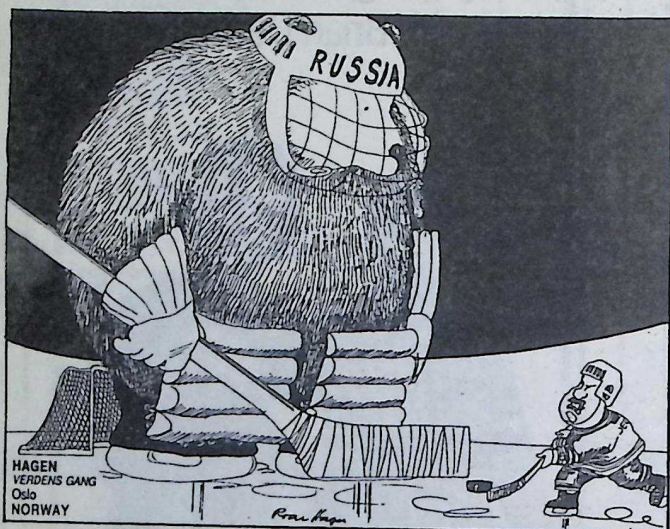
Tuesday, April 27 at 8pm
at **Pearl Street** (10 Pearl St. Northampton)
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Tickets available at Northampton Box Office (586-8686), Strawberries, Rap City in Brattleboro, For The Record in Amherst, Dynamite Records in Northampton, About Music in Greenfield, and TicketPro: (800) 828-7080.

VIEWS OF THE WORLD



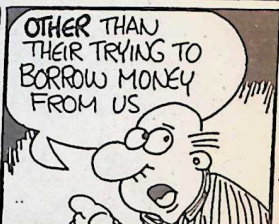
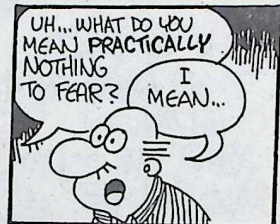
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THE AMERICAN ADDICTION



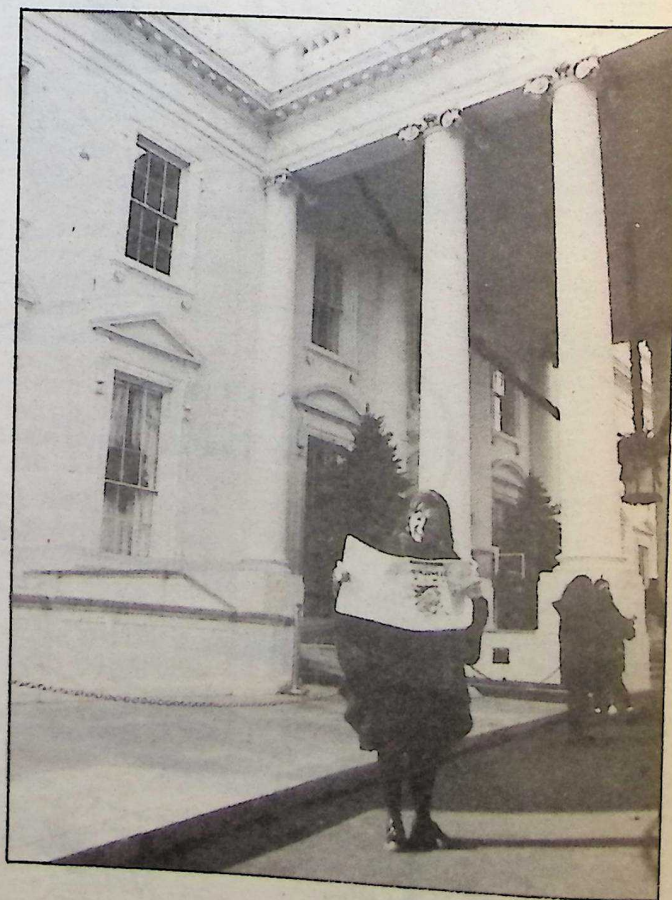
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GATHER FELLOW EXPATRIATES, LARGE BOX O' KLEENEX, AND WATCH FILMS SHOT IN HOMETOWN WHILE CONSUMING VAST QUANTITIES OF NATIVE GRUB...



Maria Talcott of Northampton has a good Comic News laugh outside Bill & Hillary's place

LOCAL HEROES

AT THE VERY TOP OF THE PAGE



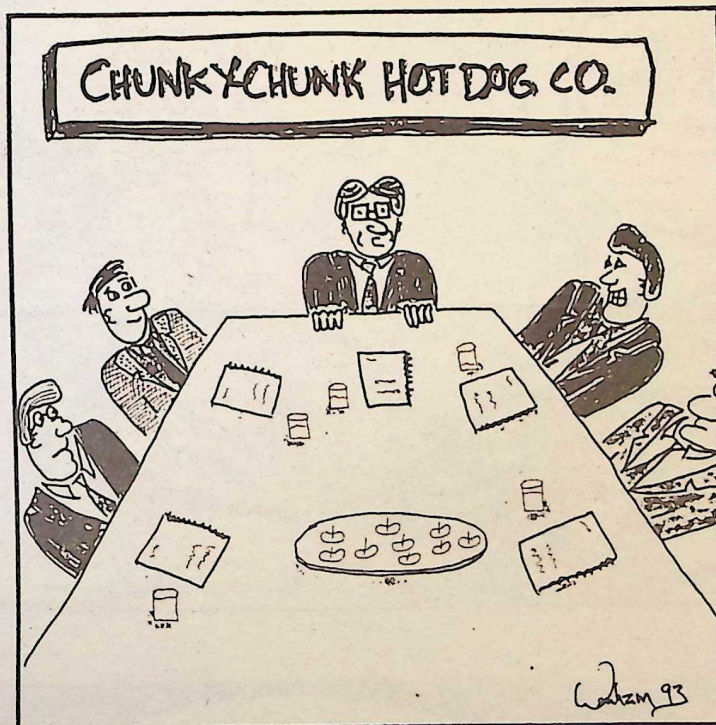
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO CUT BACK THE SECRET SERVICE DEPT. - REMEMBER THE TIME AL GOT LOST IN THE WOODS? -

F. JAMES CORWIN
2-14-93



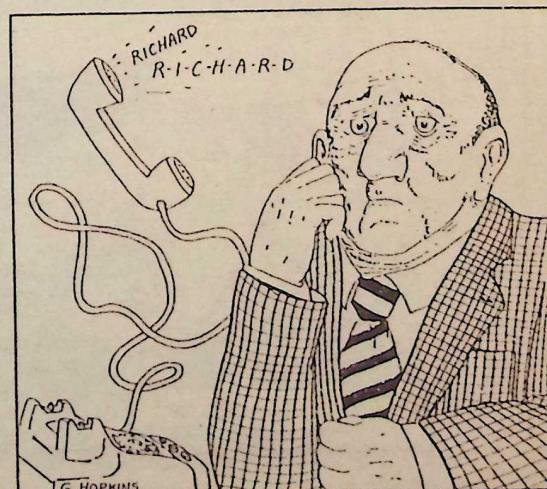
The Old Man and the C

THE COW THAT JUMPED OVER THE MOON AFTER BURNING UP ON RE-ENTRY INTO THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE



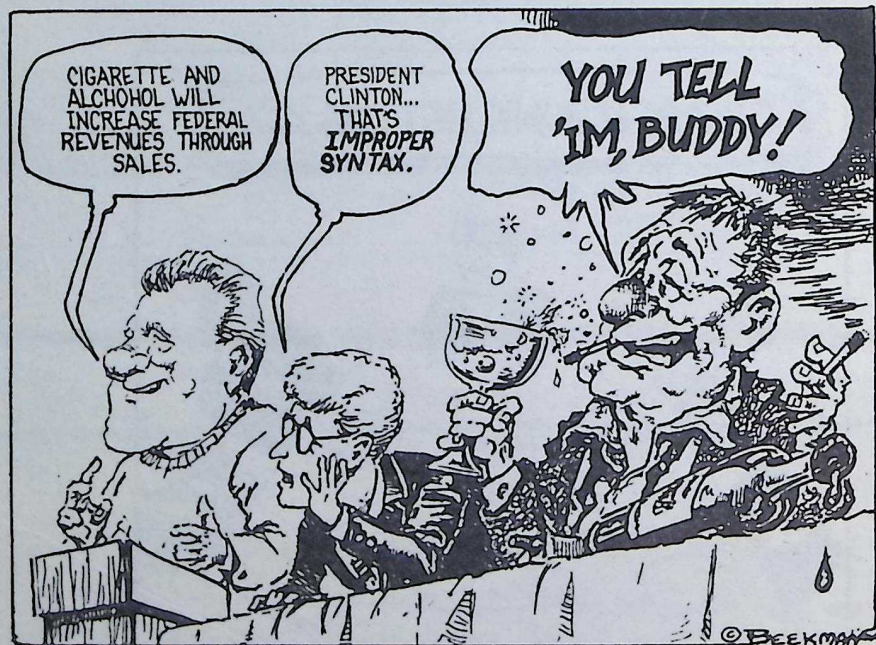
Gentlemen, I've gathered you here today to announce the imminent debut of our newest and greatest product, a timely and delicious answer to the health-conscious 90's. I give you CRYSTAL DOG: The Clear Wiener.

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RICHARD WAS STILL ANGRY WITH HIS MOTHER FOR A PROTRACTED LABOR AND DIFFICULT DELIVERY. HE PUT HER ON HOLD WHENEVER SHE CALLED.

THE WAGES OF SIN

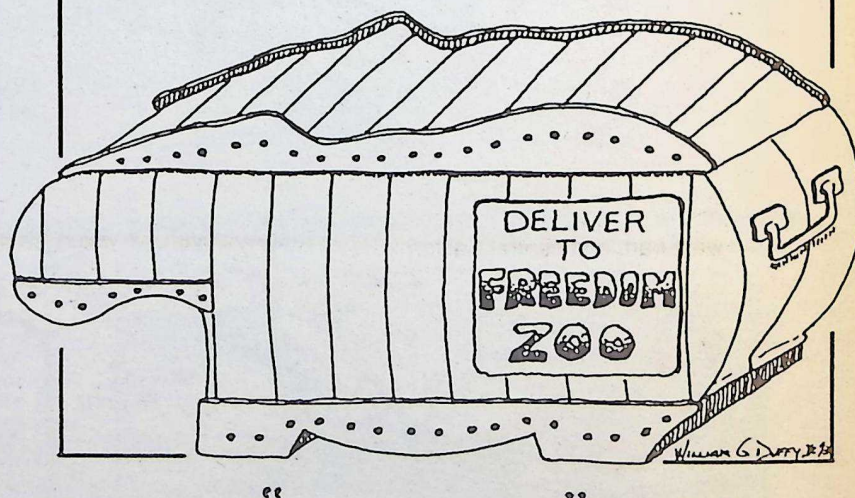


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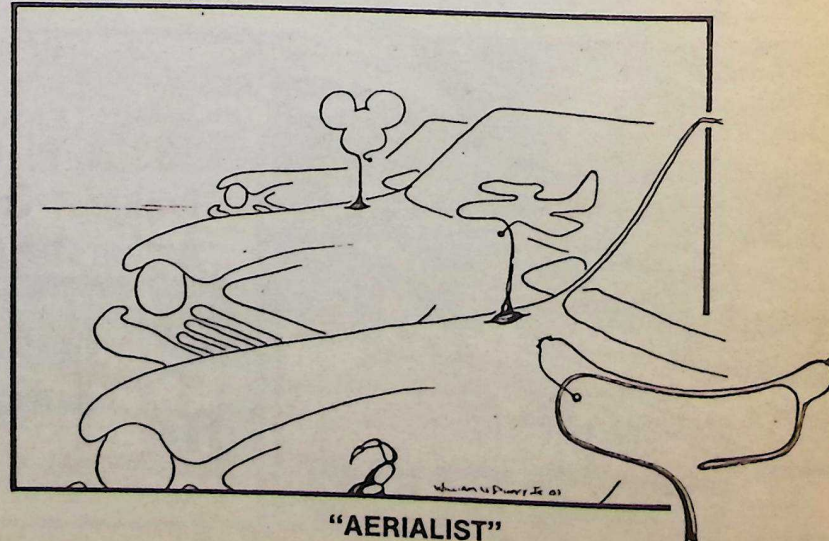
* ENTER BY MAY 6, 1993
(PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE ARTS)

THINK'R



Below is an example of Think'R's wordplay:

THINK'R



Radiation Blast

A cloud of radioactive debris streamed across Siberia after a tank at a nuclear waste depot exploded. Russian authorities said it was fortunate that the wind blew the radiation away from the Toms-7 plant and the nearby city of Toms-7, with a population of 500,000.

Russian officials contradicted each other about the gravity of the chemical blast, with some denying the existence of a radioactive cloud while others minimized the cloud's effects. Uranium and plutonium salts were released into the atmosphere when the plant exploded, and Greenpeace warned that several villages near the Yenisey River were threatened with fallout.

Floods

At least 30 people died as a result of floods and mudslides in southern Ecuador. One inundation in the Andes threatened to burst an earthen dike that is preventing water from wiping out 3,200 acres of sugar cane, wheat, and corn crops.

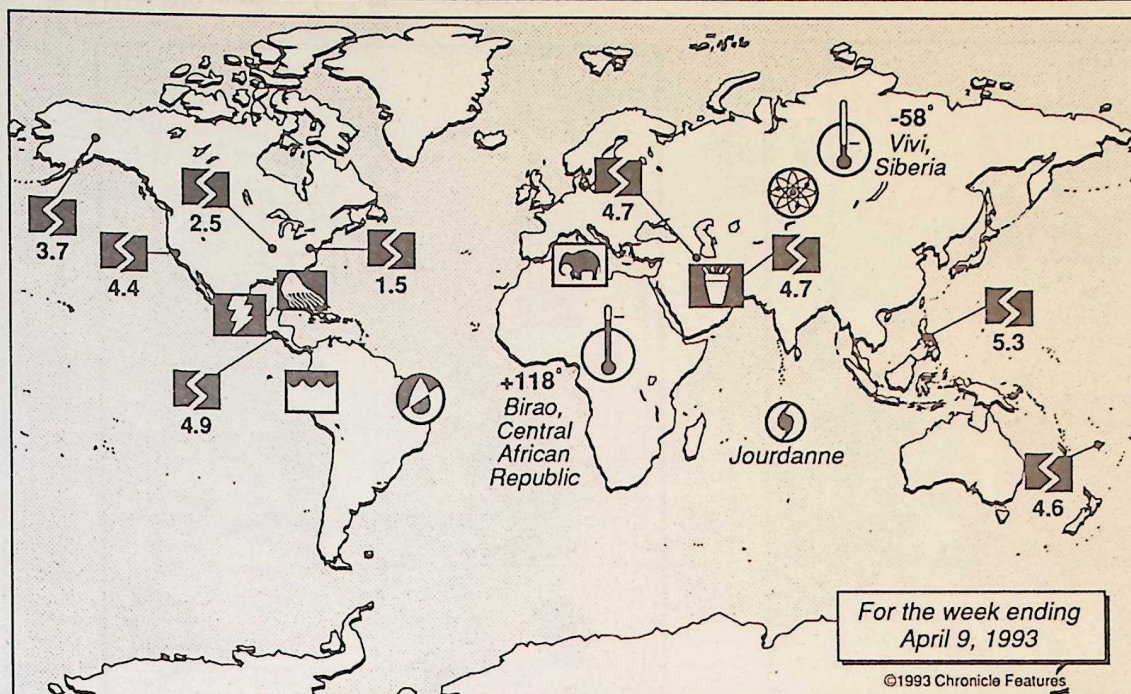
Earthquakes

Seismic activity rattled the Chesapeake Bay area for a fourth consecutive week from an epicenter near the city of Columbia, Maryland.

Earth movements were also felt in central Alaska, Missouri, the Fiji Islands, western Nicaragua, the central Philippines, south and north-west Iran, and central California.

Spring Lightning

A freak hailstorm in southern Mexico left at least two people dead and dozens injured or homeless. The storm hit the state of Oaxaca, uprooting trees and posts, and leaving a 1-foot layer of hail on the ground in the state capital. The two victims were struck by lightning during the hour-long storm.

**Elephant Stock**

African tourism ministers have drafted a scheme to promote travel to their countries by selling shares in elephants, then letting shareholders shoot the beasts 10 years later. Meeting in Tunis, the Economic Commission for Africa announced that the financial arrangement with the would-be hunters would provide for the animals' upkeep and for thinning the herds as needed. Their report proposes to create an international exchange in elephant shares, buyers of which would be "required to pay a yearly fee for the upkeep of their animals."

Drought

No rain has fallen across a nine-state region of north-eastern Brazil for two years, and gunfights recently have broken out over precious quarts of water. Children with wispy limbs fill hospital wards, and bands of starv-

ing peasants raid state food depots, supermarkets, and outdoor stalls. "They come green with hunger, wailing like dogs," said 10-year-old Evandro Viera Guimaraes, a homeless youth who had to fight off starving mobs from his market fruit stall in Serra Talhada.

Tropical Storm

Severe tropical cyclone Jourdanne churned the open waters of the central Indian Ocean with maximum sustained winds of 80 miles per hour.

Jelly Babies

Researchers in eastern Florida, puzzled by welts reported by swimmers in late spring and early summer, have discovered they are caused by tiny jellyfish. The sores appear when the larvae of jellyfish get trapped inside a bathing suit, researchers reported in the Journal of American Medical Association. "People were worried they had live organisms growing

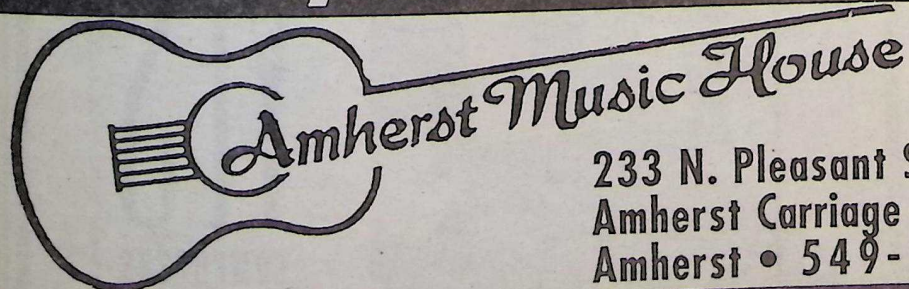
under their skin," said Dr. Robert S. Tomchik, professor of epidemiology at the University of Miami. The researchers took some of the suspected sea lice, raised them to adulthood, and discovered they all developed into thimble jellyfish, whose larvae look like black pepper in the ocean and are practically invisible.

Gold Caps

A goat slaughtered and cooked by aides to a Muslim cleric in southern Iran was found to have golden teeth, according to the Tehran newspaper, *Salam*. Jewelers in Lamard, called in to test the teeth, confirmed that they were covered by a .12-inch film of gold, the newspaper said. Sages in the town said that a kind of grass grew in the region which gave golden teeth to animals which grazed upon it, *Salam* added.

Additional Sources: U. S. Climate Analysis Center, U. S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.

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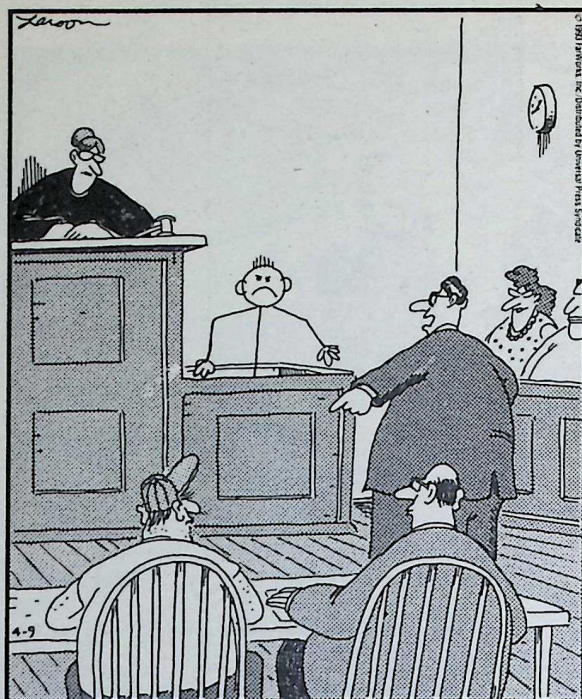
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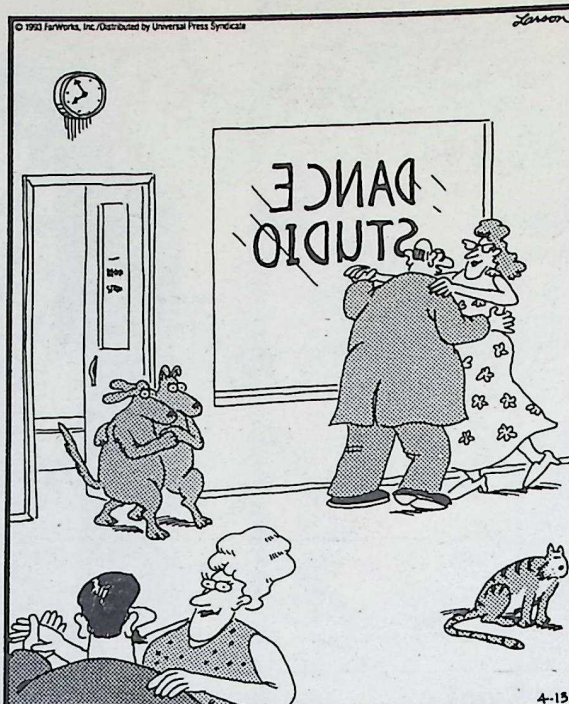
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THE FAR SIDE

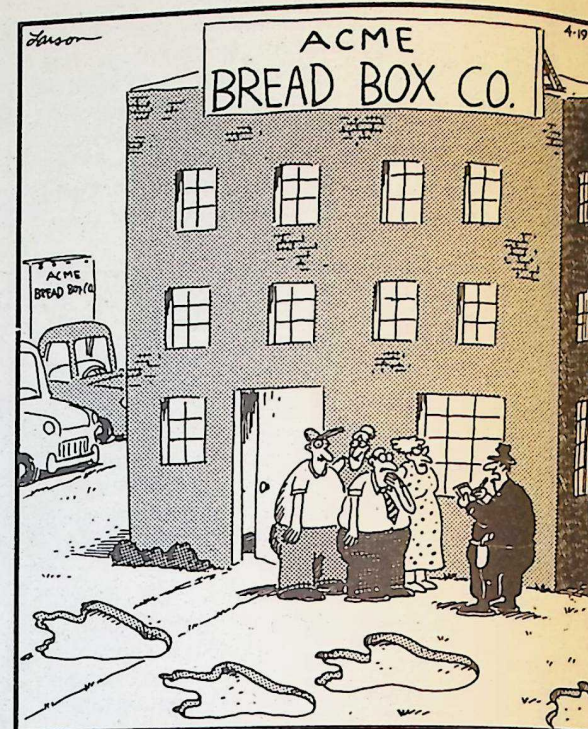
BY GARY LARSON



"One more time: You were at the park, enjoying the afternoon, when you distinctly heard the defendant turn to his dog and say: 'Look, boy! A stickman!'"



As witnesses later recalled, two small dogs just waltzed into the place, grabbed the cat, and waltzed out.



"OK, OK! Calm down, everyone! ... This monster— would you say he was bigger or smaller than your building? ... You can talk it over."



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Rocking the anthropological world, a second "Lucy" is discovered in southern Uganda.



"He kids me ... he kids me not. ... He kids me ... he kids me not. ..."



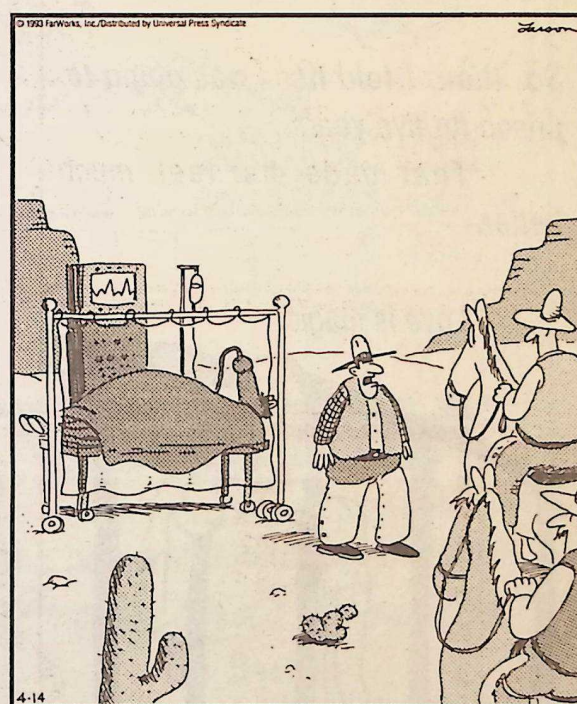
"Hey! You're not lookin' to buy anything, are you? I think you best just keep movin', buddy."



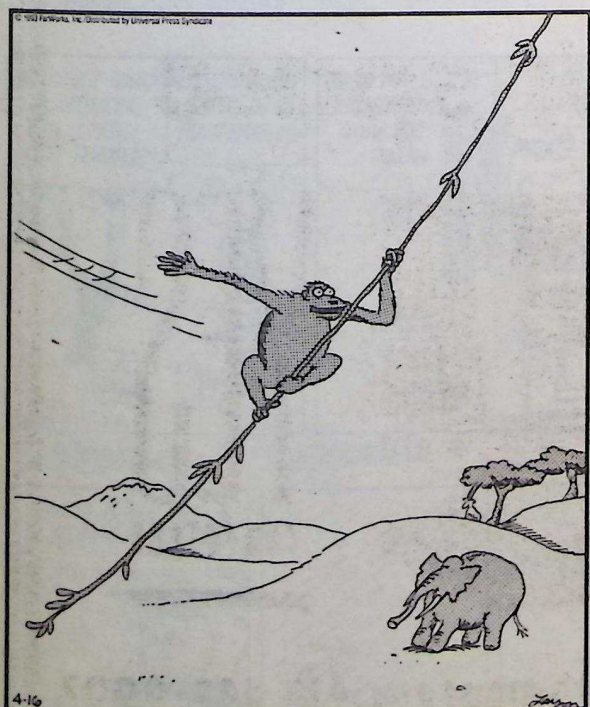
Only Bernard, in the front row, had the nerve to laugh at Death.



Rusty makes his move.



"Am I glad you boys came along! ... My horse seems to have come up lame."



He had seen Tanzania, and most of Mozambique was already behind him. There was no mistake. Chippy had done what most chimps only dream about: He had caught the Perfect Vine.



"Oh, God! Here comes Finchley! ... He's out of the closet, you know — says he kills only for food, not pleasure."



Leold at 15

by Roger&Salem Salloom

I was so happy the other day because my girl and I figured out that one of her biggest problems is fear of abandonment.

So.... I told her I'd never leave her.

Then she told me one of her other biggest problems is that she is afraid of commitment.

So, I told her that soon I would drop her, and she would be free I

That didn't seem to help.

So then, I told her I was going to prison for five years.

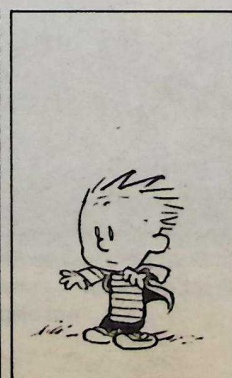
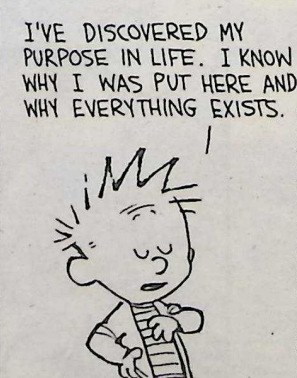
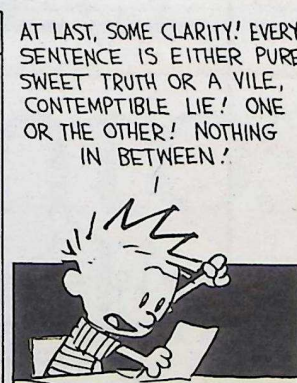
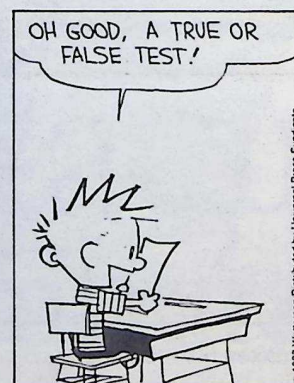
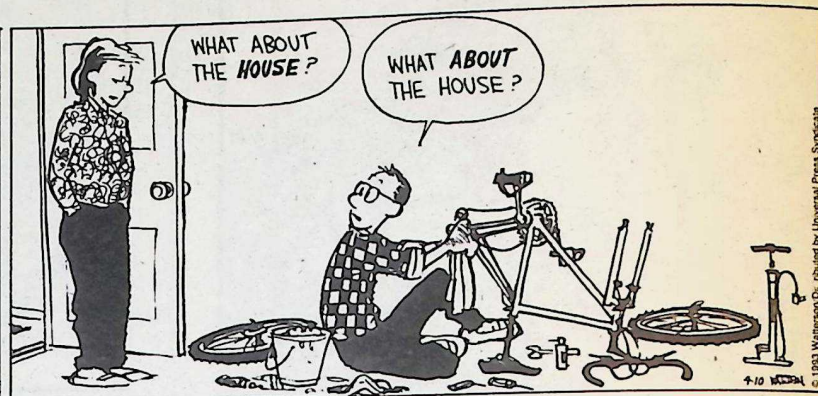
That made her feel much better.

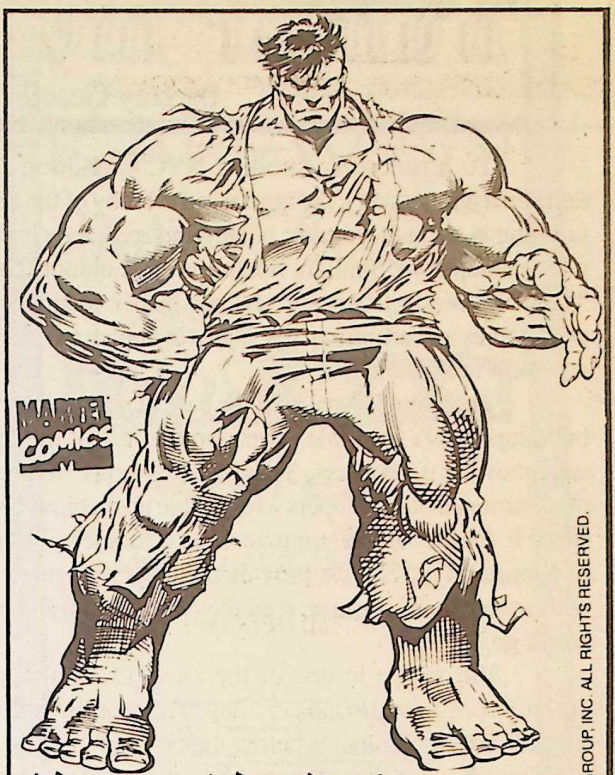
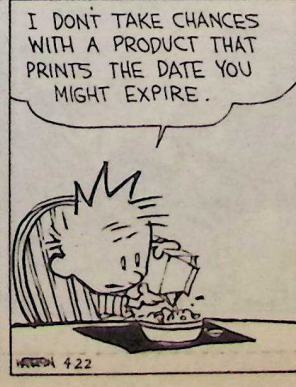
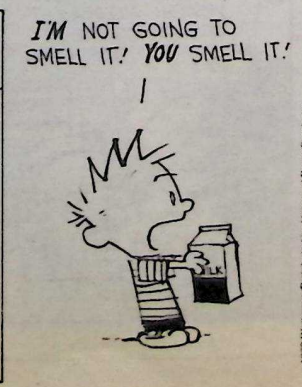
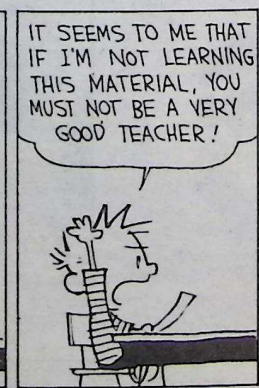
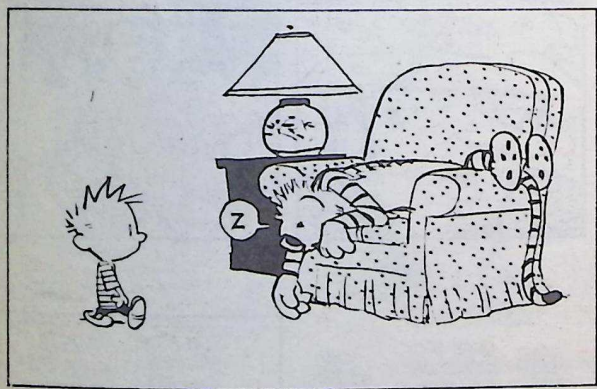
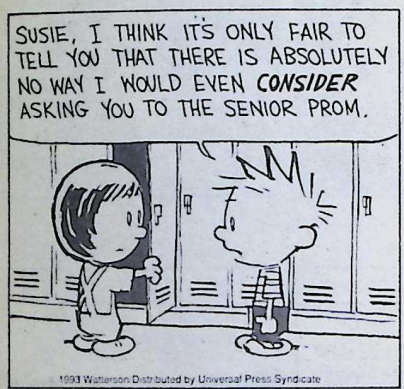
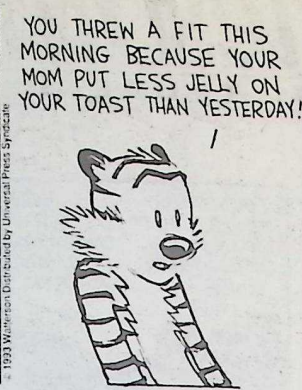
Love is magic.



calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON





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humor me

by Izzy Gesell

To a pedestrian strolling NYC's Madison Avenue on a winter's day, the atrium in the lobby of the IBM building is an oasis from the bitter wind and sandy reality of a walk uptown. Sunlight floods the large indoor space. The metal-mesh tables and chairs whisper "patio." The potted trees and artfully sparse plants are much too big for anyone's apartment.

These public spaces at the base of many high-rise buildings in NY are little jewels on the feet of the ugly stepmothers of progress. They're the results of a city requirement that developers who gobble up precious open space in the city and regurgitate architectural equivalents of Monster Trucks must provide the displaced citizenry with some room to pause, read the paper, and watch the world go by.

I'm sitting in one of the metal chairs that are cleverly constructed to look inviting, but are only comfortable for about 15 minutes before the onset of "splilkes," the Yiddish word for splinters. Out on the avenue, a tall man passing the IBM building stops, his glance arrested by a mammoth stone flower pot within the lobby. This pot is at least three feet high and six feet around. Thrusting from the pot are 25 stalks of bright orange flowers that have caused the man to suspend his uptown journey and turn left to enter the building.

I watch the man shuffle slowly into the lobby from the street, through the revolving door. I notice him leaning back on the door as it turns, grateful for even that nanosecond of rest. He is homeless, I assume; at least he looks homeless to me. I can therefore dismiss him as one human being who is entitled to my vague empathy, but not to any concrete, specific, or personal action. I gave at the office.

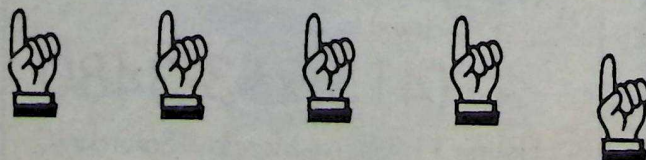
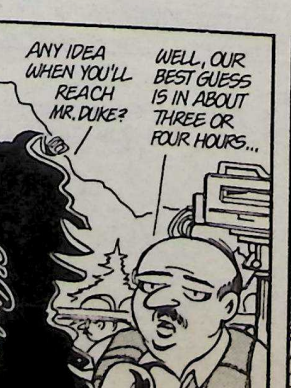
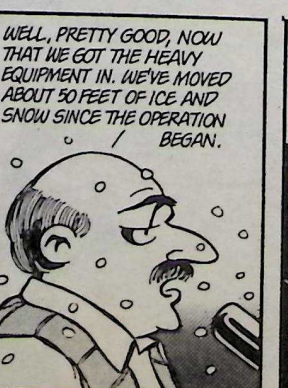
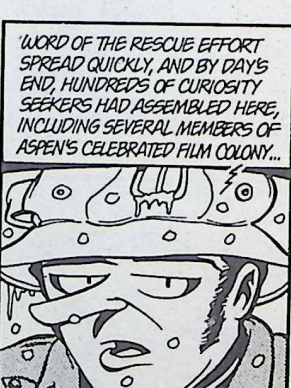
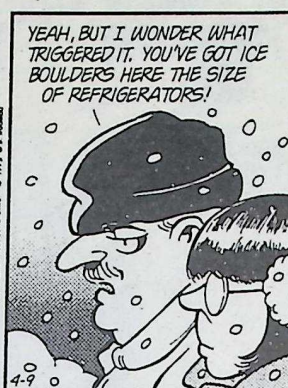
From the other side of the lobby, near the bank of elevators, a uniformed security guard straightens up. His languid gaze is now sharp and focused on the tall man in the dirty, blue parka that is the uniform of the Have Nots, the visiting team in the American Dream. Looking neither left nor right, the tall man is deposited into the lobby. With his aura emitting a sense of destination most homeless people can only reminisce about, he walks pointedly to the flower pot which is a few feet from the entrance. Bending respectfully toward the flowers, he smells them one at a time. His nose tastes each stalk until he circumnavigates the flower pot and leaves the building through the revolving door. His entire dance has been a circle -- an orbit in which a foreign planet dares enter a solar system that is unwelcoming but familiar, in order to remind these heavenly bodies that they do not exist by themselves in the universe.

The guard relaxes and slumps lower against the wall. The tall man shuffles up Madison Avenue, a bit taller for having stopped to smell the flowers.

Inside the IBM building, it's 5 PM. Streams of workers are exiting, most preoccupied with layoff notices, reduced ability to be happy, or vague feelings of discontent. The only people at the flower pot are killing time, waiting for someone else.

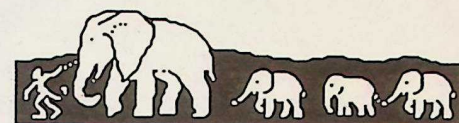
Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

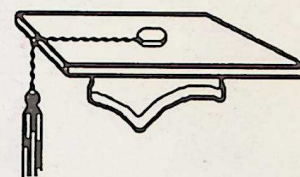




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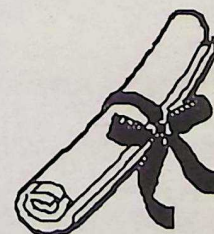
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